1	2	3	4
3. **State Sector**			
HPSEB	496.00	431.31	86.96
JKSPDC	1213.00	1088.42	89.73
RRUVNL	19.00	10.53	55.42
PSEB	1167.00	947.55	81.20
UPJVNL	227.00	235.09	103.56
UJVNL	1301.00	1066.24	81.96
SSNNL	311.00	347.60	111.77
GSECL	204.00	129.73	63.59
MPPGCL	176.00	495.04	281.27
MAHAGENCO	953.00	1343.91	141.02
CSPGC	40.00	55.04	137.60
APGENCO	958.00	477.71	49.87
KPCL	2528.00	2300.01	90.98
KSEB	1686.00	1372.61	81.41
TNEB	898.00	718.07	79.96
JSEB	6.00	7.48	124.67
OHPC	1247.00	877.66	70.38
WBSEDCL	235.00	213.41	90.81
APGCL	104.00	75.95	73.03
MeSEB	78.00	122.84	157.49
Total State Sector	13847.00	12316.20	88.94
TOTAL ALL INDIA:	27060.00	25260.98	93.35

MU = Million Unit

Hike in prices of petro-products

*432. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had announced a steep hike in selling prices of petrol, diesel and LPG in the first week of June, 2008 and had asked the State Governments to reduce sales tax, etc., to bring down their prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when this option was available, the reasons for which this was considered only after oil companies found themselves unable to maintain supplies of petro-products, leading to severe disruptions in human and economic activity?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (c) International prices of crude oil and petroleum products have remained volatile in the recent past. The Indian basket of crude oil, which averaged $ 79.25 per barrel in 2007-08 had gone up to $ 129.72 per barrel in June, 2008, touching an all time high of $ 142.04 on 3.7.2008.

Based on the international oil prices prevailing in June, 2008, the under-recoveries of the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) were projected around Rs. 2.45 lakh crore for the year 2008-09. To protect the financial health of the oil PSUs, which are the backbone of the country's energy security and keeping in mind the interests of the common man, Government took the following measures in June 2008:

(i) Marginal increase in the Retail Selling Prices (RSPs) of Petrol by Rs. 5/- per litre, Diesel by Rs. 3/- per litre and Domestic LPG by Rs. 50/- per 14.2 kg. cylinder w.e.f. 5.6.2008. There was no price increase for PDS Kerosene against the required increase of Rs. 35.98 per litre.

(ii) The following reductions in taxes and duties were also carried out:

- Custom Duty on crude oil was reduced from 5% to nil, on Petrol and Diesel from 7.5% to 2.5% and on ATF from 10% to Nil;
- Excise Duty on unbranded Petrol and unbranded Diesel was reduced by Rs. 1 per litre.

(iii) Issue of Oil Bonds by the Government.

(iv) Assistance from the Public Sector Upstream Oil Companies, through price discounts to OMCs.

On the Central Government's request and in order to cushion the burden of the high international oil prices, several State Governments like West Bengal, Bihar, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Goa, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Uttaranchal, Haryana, Jharkhand reduced the sales tax on Diesel and Chandigarh on Petrol. State Governments of Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Chandigarh, Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh reduced the VAT on Domestic LPG to Nil. State Governments of Delhi and Andhra Pradesh started a state subsidy on Domestic LPG.

The Government took the above measures to achieve the twin objectives of protecting the interest of the consumer on the one hand and protecting the financial health of the OMCs on the other.

During 2008-09, to compensate the OMCs for their under-recoveries incurred on the sale of Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG, Government issued Oil Bonds of Rs. 71,292 crore to the OMCs which the Upstream Oil PSUs, *viz.* ONGC, OIL and GAIL contributed

Rs. 32,000 crore in price discounts on crude oil and petroleum products. In addition, ONGC and OIL also contributed Rs. 943 crore through price discounts towards the import losses of OMCs.

Malnourished children

†*433. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:
SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that forty six per cent children in the country suffer from malnutrition and in some States their number is more than fifty per cent;

(b) if so, whether Government is formulating any effective scheme to ensure normal life to the children in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) As per National Family Health Survey (NHFS) 3, (2005-06), the percentage of children below five years of age who are underweight in the country is 42.5%. Three states namely Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand have more than 50% underweight children.

(b) and (c) The problem of malnutrition is multi-dimensional and inter-generational in nature, the determinants of which include household food insecurity, illiteracy specially in women, poor access to health services, safe drinking water, poor sanitation and environmental conditions and low purchasing power etc. Early marriages of girls, teenage pregnancies resulting in low birth weight of the newborns, poor breastfeeding practices, poor complementary feeding practices, ignorance about nutritional needs of infants and young children and repeated infections further aggravate the situation.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme through State Governments/UT Administrations. The scheme provides a package of six services namely supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-up, referral services, pre-school non-formal education and nutrition and health education.

Three of the six services namely immunization, health check up and referral services are delivered through the public health system of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

To address the problem of malnutrition and ensure effective implementation of the scheme, the Government has recently Universalised the Scheme with special focus on SC/ST and minority habitations, revised the cost norms as well as the Nutritional and feeding norms of the Supplementary Nutrition component of ICDS among others.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.